

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT A 00912 101639Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 /016 W
-----058123 110452Z /64
R 091645Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7754

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PORT AU PRINCE 0912

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SREF, HA
SUBJ: GROUP OF 12 HAITIAN ASYLUM SEEKERS

REF: A. STATE 29973, B. STATE 49277, C. 72 PORT AU PRINCE 1155,
D. 72 PORT AU PRINCE 1156

1. EMBASSY HAS NO INFORMATION ON FILE REGARDING ROCHAMBEAU GABRIEL, HIS PARENTS, OR ANY OF THE OTHER ELEVEN ASYLUM SEEKERS ADMITTED TO THE UNITED STATES IN 1972. OUR COPIES OF 1972 REFTELS HAVE BEEN DESTROYED.

2. BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REFTEL A IT IS OUR OPINION THAT NONE OF THE TWELVE WOULD BE MOLESTED BY THE GOH IN ANY WAY SUBSEQUENT TO THEIR RETURN TO HAITI. THE DEPARTMENT WILL RECALL THAT THE GOH GAVE US GENERAL ASSURANCES A YEAR AGO (77 PAP 671) THAT THE GOH "WILL WELCOME ALL HAITIANS WHO WISH TO RETURN TO THEIR COUNTRY AND THEIR FAMILY AND CARRY ON THEIR ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITHOUR LAWS" AND THAT SUCH PERSONS WOULD BE OFFERED "ALL CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES." SINCE THIS LANGUAGE DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY COVER THOSE RETURNED INVOLUNTARILY WE BELIEVE IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE IN THIS CASE TO SEEK SPECIFIC ASSURANCES SIMILAR TO THOSE OBTAINED IN SEPTEMBER 1977 FOR THE REPATRIATION OF THE LARGE GROUP OF HAITIANS AT GUANTANAMO. WE WOULD PREFER NOT TO APPROACH THE GOH UNTIL

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DEPORTATION WAS IMMINENT, HOWEVER, AND WOULD WISH TO RECEIVE COPIES OF THE 1972 REFTELS AND CONTEMPORARY PRESS COVERAGE BEFORE MAKING A FINAL RECOMMENDATION. WHEN APPROACHING GOH WE WOULD EMPHASIZE THAT DEPORTEES HAD BEEN JUDGED NOT TO HAVE VALID CLAIMS TO ASYLUM AND THAT THEY HAD EXHAUSTED LEGAL REMEDIES TO STAY IN THE U.S.

3. VALUE OF APPROACH TO GOH WOULD BE TWOFOLD. FIRST, ASSUMING SPECIFIC ASSURANCES FORTHCOMING, IT WOULD GIVE AN EXTRA MEASURE OF PROTECTION TO THE INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED. SECOND, IT WOULD SET USEFUL PRECEDENT FOR FUTURE DEPORTATIONS. ASSURANCES WOULD BE MEANINGLESS, HOWEVER, IF POTENTIAL DEPORTEES WERE PUBLICLY TO DENOUNCE THE PRESENT GOH EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER DEPORTATION.
JONES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL ASYLUM, REPATRIATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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